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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Descriptive Reports on Soviet Naval Vessels

DATE DISTR. /3 September 1957

NO. PAGES 2

REQUIREMENT NO.

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REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO.

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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reports on Soviet naval vessels

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Paragraph

numbers in the list below correspond to numbers on the attached reports.

Ship(s)

Location

1. Two submarines, both with snorkel exhaust stack, and two destroyers, (Sketches of all vessels included.) Kildin Ostrov (Barents Sea)
2. Two destroyers and miscellaneous smaller vessels. Odessa
3. Two probable minesweepers, Kerch Straits
4. Two submarines; five T-301-class minesweepers, three KRONSTADT-class subchasers, one trawler; and the icebreakers KAPITAN BELUSOV and KAPITAN VORONIN. Arkhangelsk
5. Two destroyers, including the KOTLIN-class and an older vessel, one auxiliary vessel, and one KRONSTADT-class subchaser, Leningrad lightship

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)																

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Two SVERDLOV-class cruisers, Kronshtadt
several destroyers, six
submarines, and
miscellaneous other craft,

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6. Eight probable minesweepers, Gulf of Finland

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7. Five destroyers, including Leningrad
two KOTLIN-class

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Twelve minesweepers, Kronshtadt-Leningrad
Channel

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and submarine

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Att [redacted]

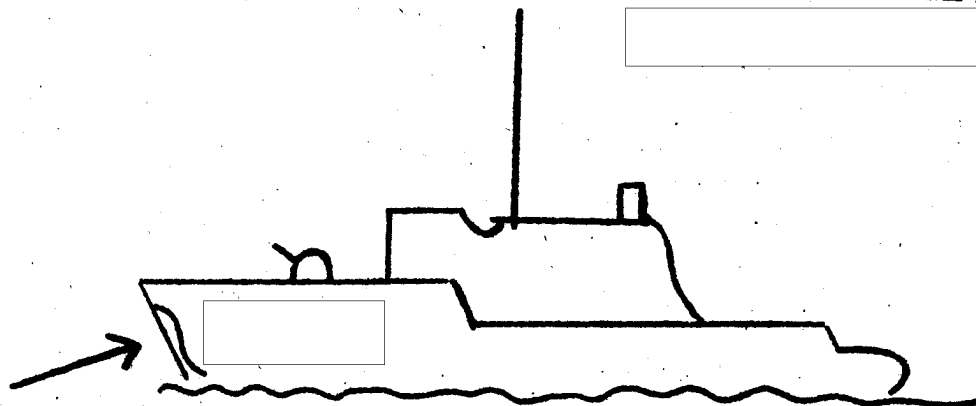
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[redacted] Soviet guard ship [redacted] was on position in the
Strait of Kerch in the Black Sea.

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bow
protective
device?



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This [redacted] flew a blue flag with white upper staff
corner containing the Red Star and the Hammer and Sickle emblem.

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[redacted] Comment. According to the sketch [redacted] the
vessel may be a craft of type T-43.

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[redacted] a unit of 8 light Soviet craft in double line ahead was seen on position 59°55'N/ 25°45'E. The craft were of identical type and had the following distinguishing marks: the leading boat developed heavy smoke; it had a raked stack cap with three rings below; the long foc'sle mounted a superstructure; a raked mast with signal elements emerged from the aft part of the superstructure; 1 raked stack with raked cap about the center of the craft; the middle deck ended shortly before reaching the stern and mounted AA guns of unidentified caliber, presumably about 30 mm; 1 gun of about 50 mm caliber with shield on the foc'sle; launching gear on the stern. The craft were painted dark-grey [redacted]

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[redacted] The unit steered about northwest in close formation and then changed course abruptly and turned toward the south with each one pair of buoy-like floating bodies between two craft driving side by side.

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[redacted] Comment. According to the description, the craft were minesweepers of the T-43 Class which were probably engaged in minesweeping exercises.

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NAVAL

Russian Warships at ODESSA

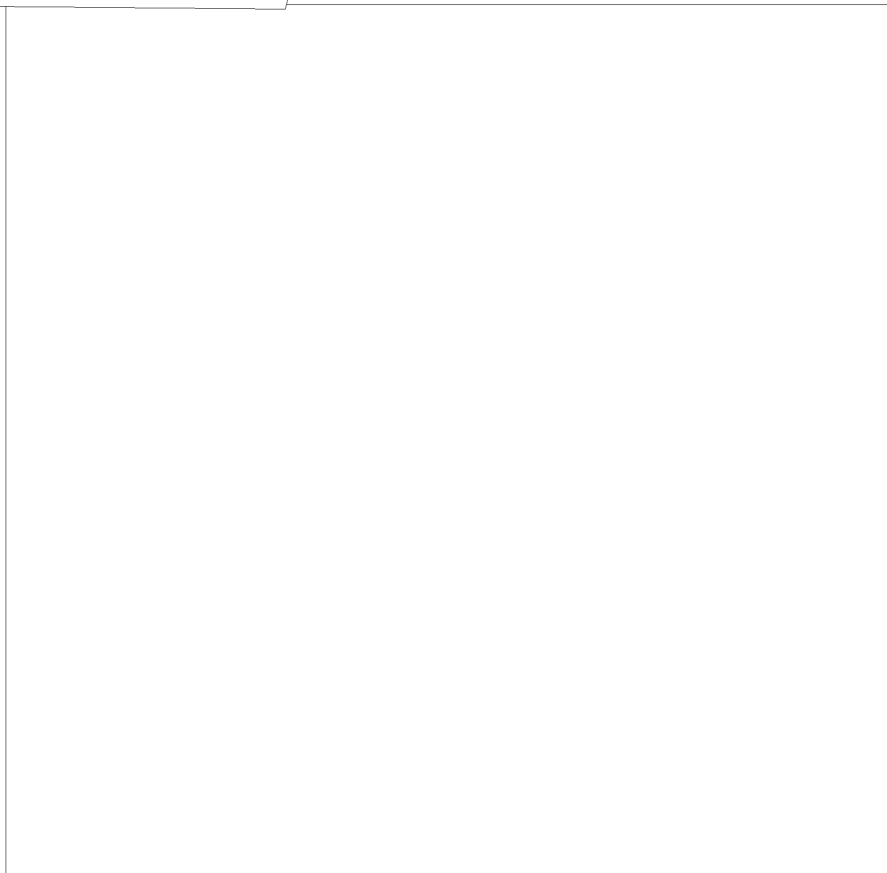
1.

[redacted] two Russian
destroyers were seen at ODESSA patrolling outside the
harbour during daylight hours about 5 miles apart.

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2.



3.

Six minesweepers were seen to leave harbour every
night and patrol off shore during the dark hours
returning to harbour at first light.

4.

A number of Motor Gun Boats were seen in the harbour
[redacted] A sketch of one of them is
attached. (See sketch No. 1).

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[REDACTED]

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5. A large yacht flying the Russian Naval onsign was seen leaving ODESSA Harbour [REDACTED] This vessel was particularly noticed because of the large number of Radio and Radar aorials situated on and between the masts. (See skotch No.2).

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[REDACTED]

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6. Two Radio installation masts were seen to the South of ODESSA town [REDACTED] (See skotch No.3).

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7. [REDACTED] continuous A/C activity. [REDACTED] aircraft [REDACTED] were very high, vory fast with no vapour trail but the ongine noise was a high scream.

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8.

9.

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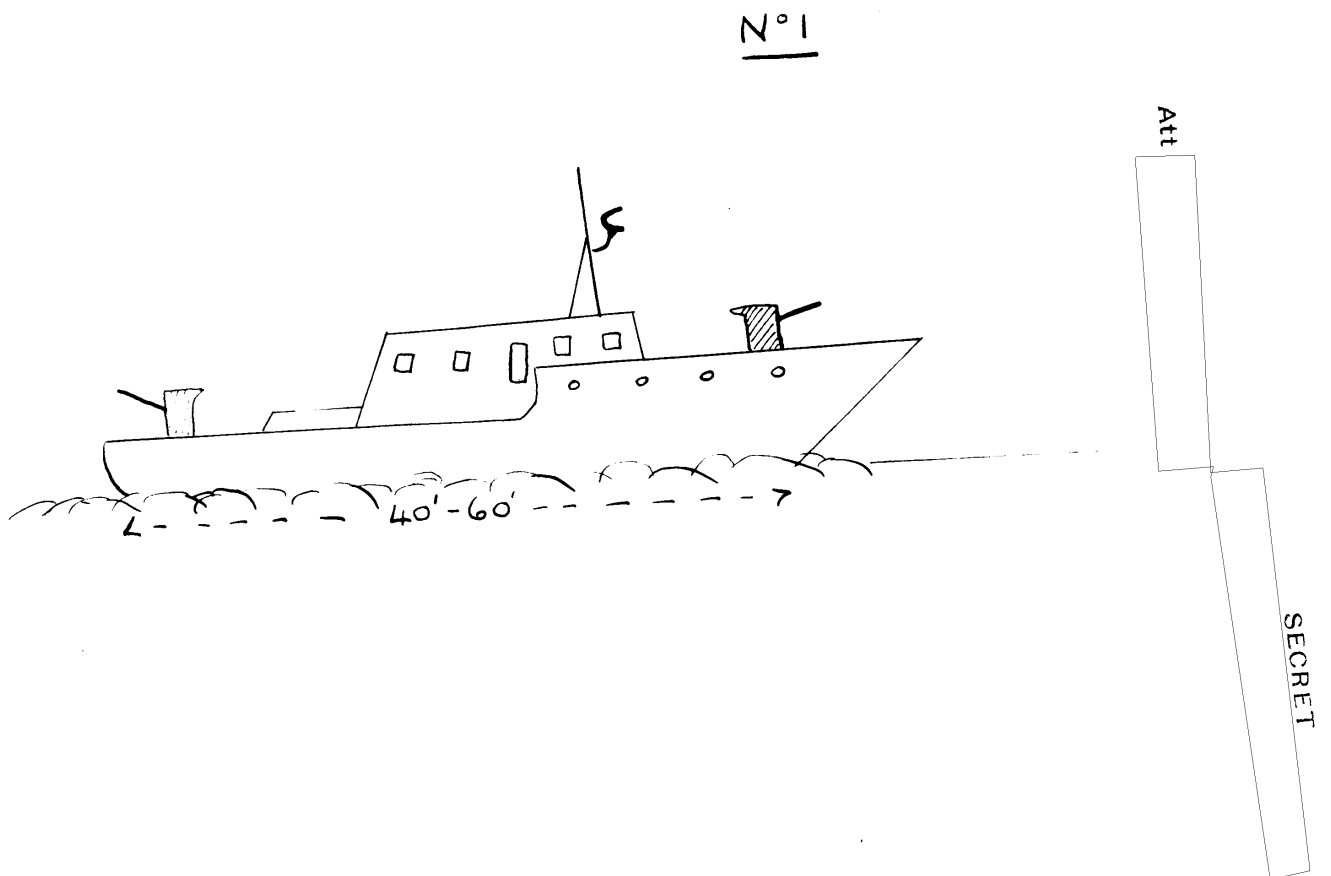
10.

[REDACTED]

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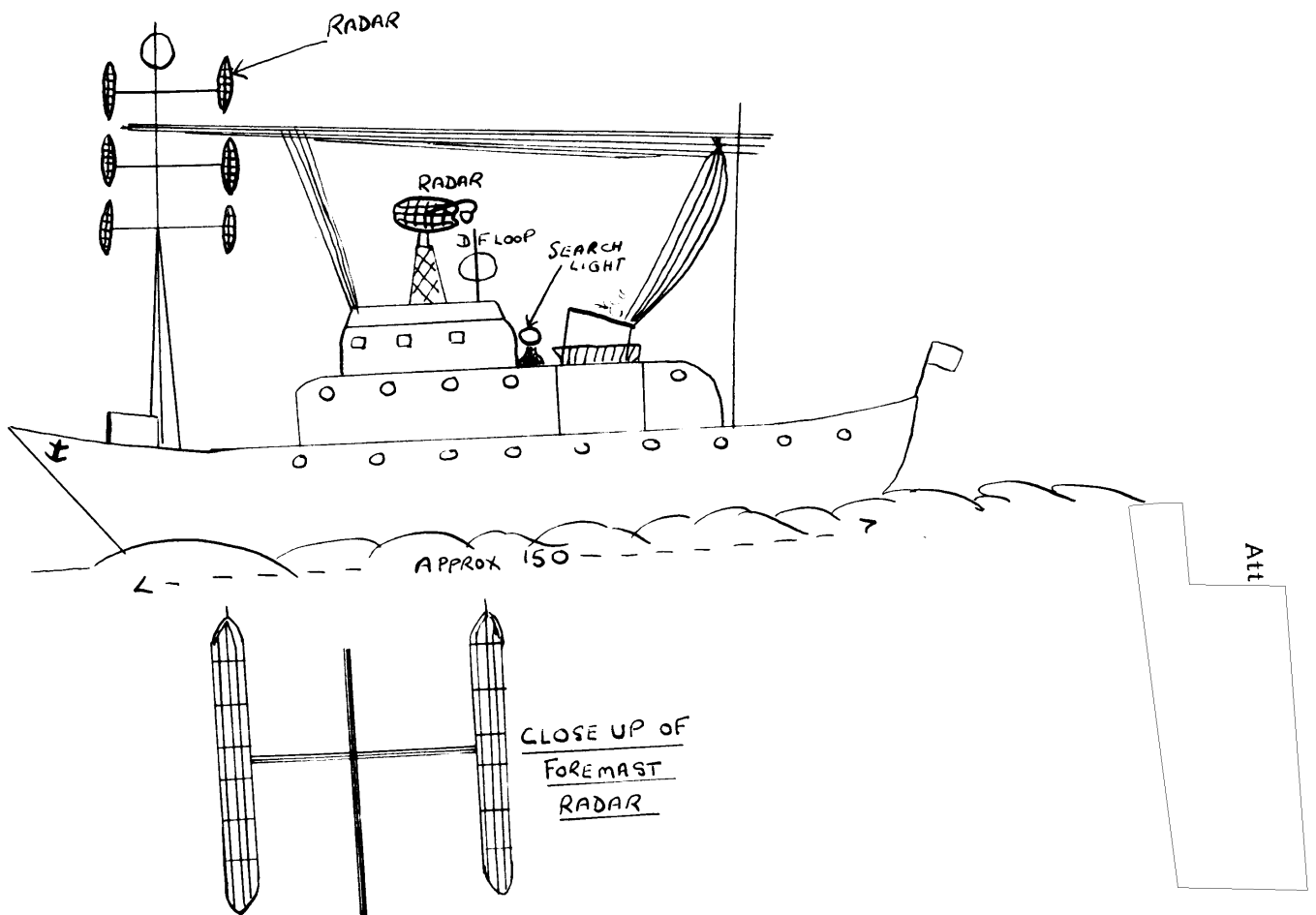
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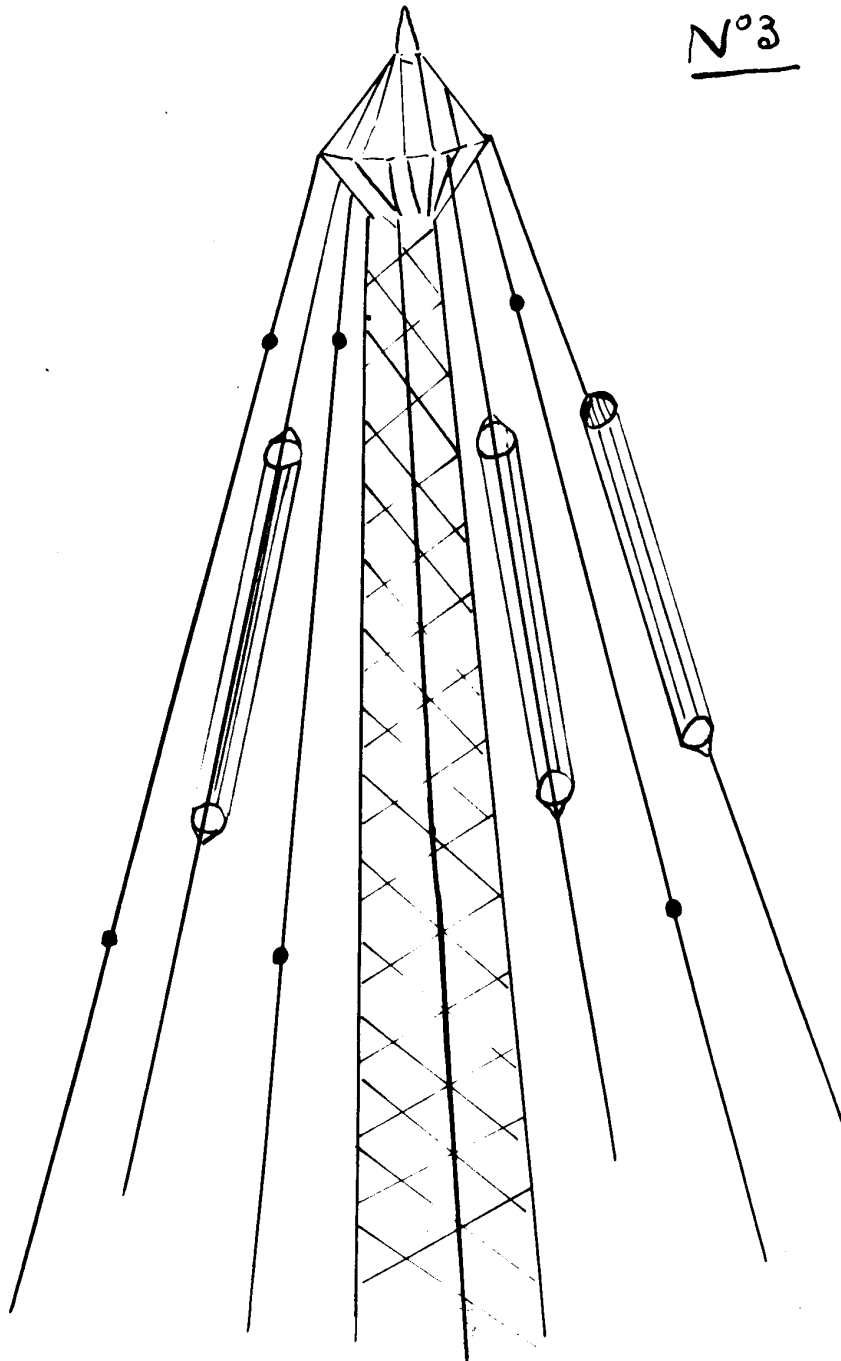
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1. [redacted] two Soviet destroyers including KOTLIN Class 98 were berthed near Leningrad light vessel. The KOTLIN Class 98 had a through deck, tripod masts, with the second placed in the center between the two stacks, each one twin-barrel gun on the foc'sle and on the aft section, and large breakwaters at the trailing edge of first gun. The second destroyer [redacted] was an old-type vessel with a pole mast, two stacks and, between, torpedo tube mounts and each one gun on single mount on the foc'sle and the aft section. The foc'sle extended as far as trailing edge of bridge superstructure.

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2. [redacted] ship [redacted] followed by submarine chaser [redacted] of the KRONSTADT Class put to sea from Kronstadt. [redacted] medium-size ship, a former freight steamer, fitted with two stacks, of which the forward stack was presumably a dummy funnel, one gun on single mount forward of the bridge and two other single-mount guns between the stacks.
3. Vessels seen in Kronstadt [redacted] included two SYMBILOV cruisers and several destroyers and six submarines in packs of three, and several naval tankers. Soviet speedboat [redacted] put to sea from Kronstadt [redacted]

Comment.

[redacted] Vessel [redacted] may be identical with LENINGRAD destroyer [redacted] which was seen in Kronstadt [redacted] however, the LENINGRAD destroyer had four guns rather than 2 as is stated in the description

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was reported for the first time from Leningrad [redacted] then
from Kronstadt [redacted] and, together with auxiliary ship [redacted] and
icebreaker PRESVIET near Kyels Nor en route toward north [redacted]. The
forward stack of the vessel is presumably a normal stack, which was
running smokeless, rather than a dummy funnel. [redacted]

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1. [redacted] Soviet minesweepers [redacted] were on position between Kronstadt and sea canal on western course. Minesweeping gear was run out. 25X1
2. [redacted] submarine [redacted] was towed toward Kronstadt on the sea canal by a medium-size tug. The boat had no gun but was partially covered by red lead. 25X1
3. [redacted] four modern destroyers including KOTLIN Class No 51 were berthed in the large yard basin of the Zhdanov Shipyard in Leningrad. The vessels appeared to be yard-new and had a fresh coat of paint. 25X1
4. [redacted] destroyer [redacted] which was of the same type as KOTLIN Class 51 left the Zhdanov Shipyard with course toward Kronstadt. KOTLIN Class No 51 as well as destroyer [redacted] had a continuous deckline, each one twin-turret on the fore'sle and aft section, two trellis masts of about equal height, two stacks and a square bridge. 25X1
5. [redacted] 10 minesweepers [redacted] all of them towing sweeping gear were on position between Kronstadt and sea canal, approximately three seamiles east of Kronstadt. 25X1

Comment. The minesweepers are presumably of type T-43. [redacted]

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Naval.

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Warships off KILDIN ISLAND.

1. Two submarines and two destroyers were sighted off KILDIN ISLAND
The submarines and destroyer s were similar in appearance
except for slight differences in equipment.

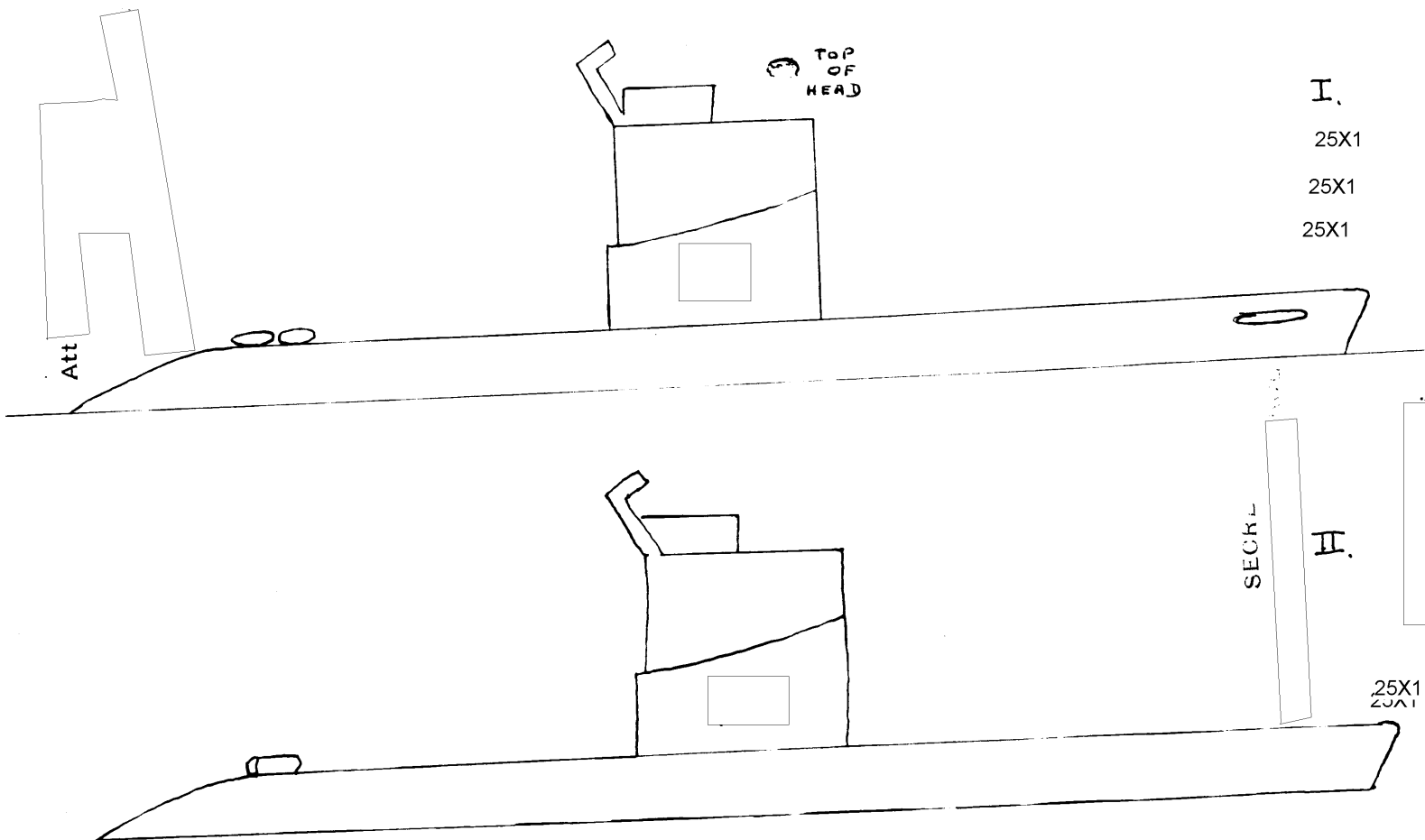
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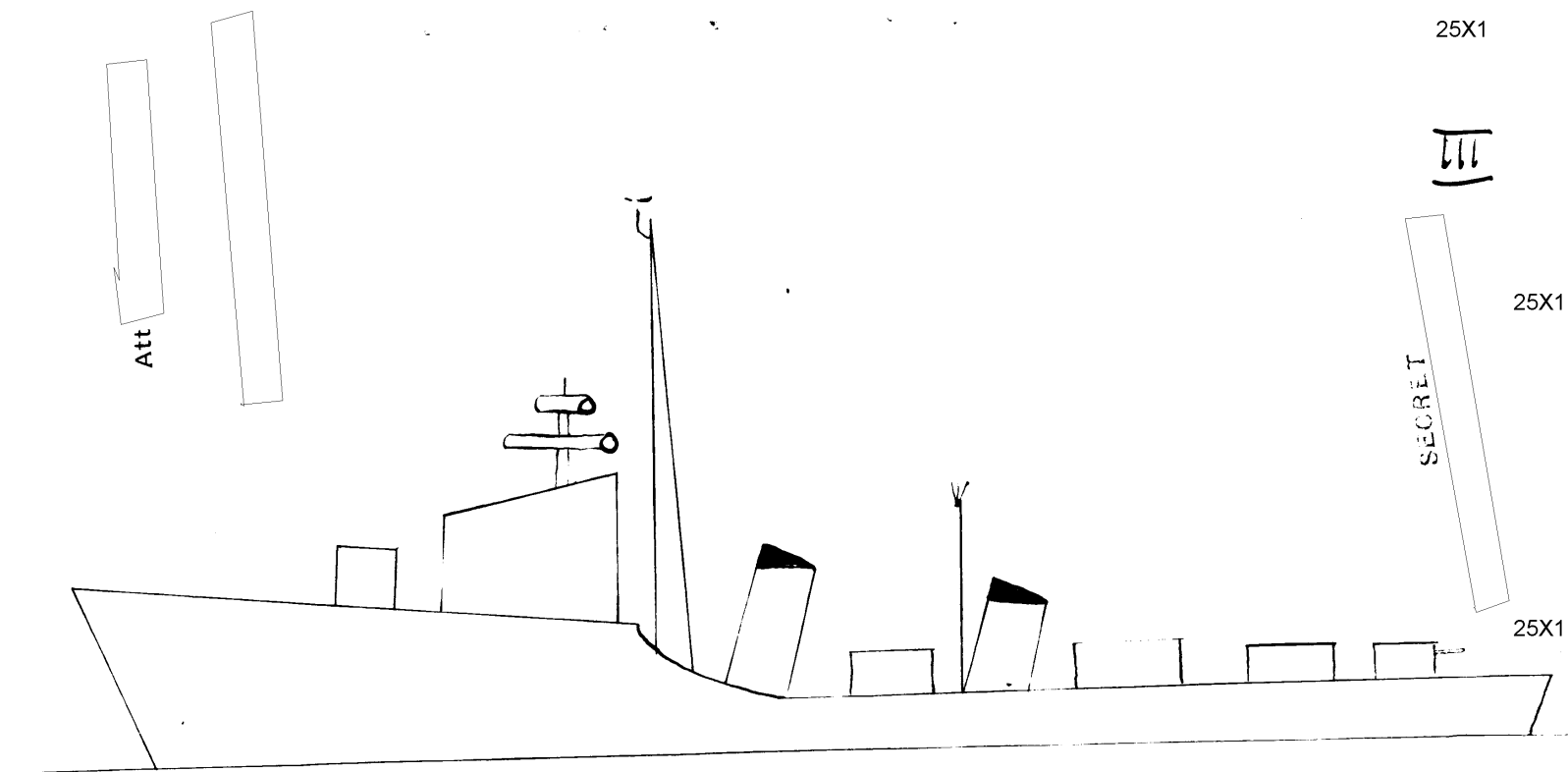
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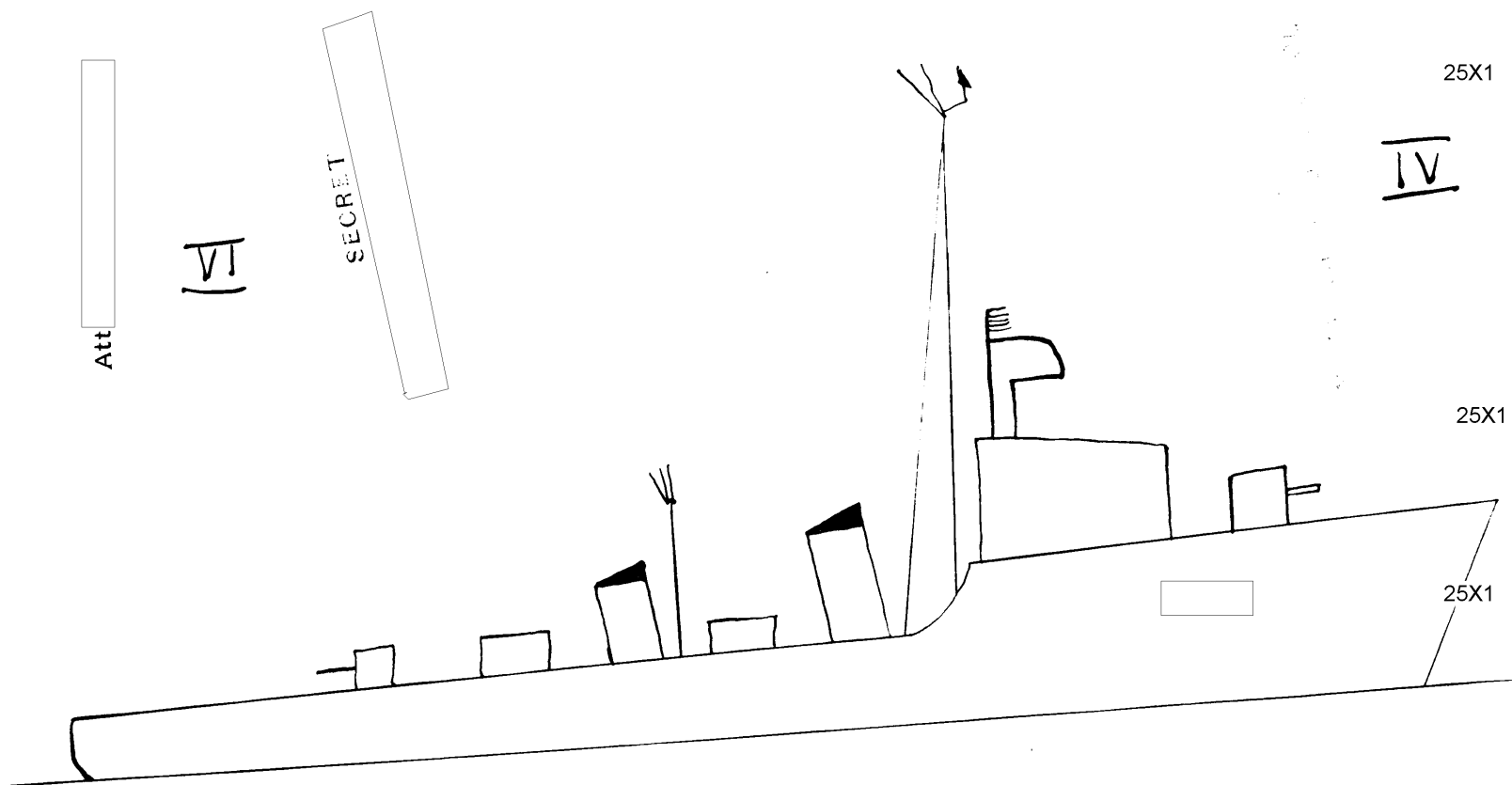
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1. During the period [redacted] no Soviet naval vessel passed the branch of the river east of Ostrov Brevennik Island during daytime.

2. [redacted] an about 750-ton submarine with [redacted] no guns aboard was seen in the Rybsudostroi Shipyard. No guards were seen on the submarine, which looked rather deserted. Rybsudostroi Shipyard had no crane but three wooden boat slips with three pressure bodies of about 50 tons. Five or six similar pressure bodies but half the size as those on the slips were floating in the water in front of the slips. These bodies were of cylindrical shape with pointed, hollow parts on both ends which were fitted with different kinds of ring bolts at the sides. Other craft seen at the shipyard included several small tugs and harbor launches. Five T-301 boats with a guard aboard were berthed in a pack south of the yard.

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Distinguishing marks: length about 35 meters; long foc'sle; the bridge on the foc'sle; one mast emerging from the bridge; the stack closely spaced aft of bridge directly emerging from the deck; a light gun on the foc'sle. Three boats [redacted] of type KRONSTADT were berthed next to the T-301s. Other ships included ice-breakers KAPITAN BELUSOV and VORONIN [redacted] and a steam trawler.

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3. A new submarine was berthed alongside a floating dock in the large shipyard at the southern tip of Zolombala Island. The submarine was either yard-new or had been overhauled; it was still covered by red lead. A guard was seen at the dock.

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Comment.

The report obviously refers to the small repair and scrapping yard Povrakul north of Arkhangelsk. The submarine mentioned is possibly identical with the submarine ex-German Type IX [redacted]

The pressure bodies on the slips were probably parts to be scrapped, since the yard is not equipped for the construction of new ships. The bodies referred to may have been fuel tanks or floating bodies for salvage service.

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